

REGULAR MEETING

Person Preparing Minutes: Susan I. Schroeder, Town Clerk

Audio or Video Recording of Meeting: Yes

Name of Board, Commission or Committee: Town Council Meeting

Meeting Location: Council Chambers via Zoom Platform

Meeting Date: February 22, 2022

Time Meeting Started: 7:00 p.m.

Members Present:

1. Councilor Biggs
2. Councilor Forrest
3. Councilor Hill
4. Councilor O'Connor
5. Councilor Pelletier
6. Councilor Pentalow
7. Deputy Mayor Mazzarella
8. Mayor Rell

Members Absent: Councilor Lesser

Present: Denise Bradley, Assistant Planner, Anthony Dignoti, Emergency Management, Derrick Gregor, Town Engineer, Karen Tomczyk, Emergency Management, Derrick Solla, Information Specialist, Gioia Zack, Economic Development Coordinator, Bonnie Therrien, Interim Town Manager and Susan I. Schroeder, Town Clerk.

Also Present: Kimberly Lesay, Bureau Chief, Policy and Planning, CT DOT, Economic Development and Improvement Commission members: Tom Carson, Cindy Jacobs, Judy Keane, Thomas Pentalow, Brianna Timbro and Mark Trahan.

Number Required for Quorum: 5

Quorum Present: Yes

1st Motion:

Deputy Mayor Mazzarella motioned **“TO APPOINT ANDREA ROBINSON OF 57 STILLMAN ROAD AND GABE ZAGAJA OF 19 WILDWOOD ROAD TO THE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM OF 2-22-22 TO 6-30-25”** seconded by Councilor Pelletier.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

2nd Motion:

Councilor Forrest motioned **“TO APPOINT MATTHEW TYKSINSKI OF 29 WOODLAND STREET TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM OF 2-22-22 TO 6-30-22”**, seconded by Councilor Biggs.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

3rd Motion:

Councilor O'Connor motioned **“TO REMOVE ITEM 2A FROM THE TABLE”** seconded by Councilor Hill.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

4th Motion:

Deputy Mayor Mazzarella motioned **“TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHANGES TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURES AS AMENDED ON MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022 AT 7:00 PM AT THE WETHERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

5th Motion:

Councilor Forrest motioned to **“APPROVE THE THREE-YEAR PURCHASE OF THE EVERBRIDGE EMERGENCY MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM UTILIZING ARPA FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNT: YEAR 1 - \$9,912,30; YEAR 2 - \$10,197.84; YEAR 3 - \$10,197.84”** seconded by Councilor Biggs.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 7-1-0 (Councilor Pelletier voted Nay).

Deputy Mayor Mazzarella dropped from the platform.

6th Motion:

Councilor O'Connor motioned **“TO ADVISE THE WETHERSFIELD PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL DECISION TO ALLOW FOR THE CULTIVATION OF MARIJUANA BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS BUT NOT TO ALLOW RETAIL”** seconded by Councilor Pelletier.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 5-1-1 (Councilor Hill voted Nay and Councilor Forrest abstained).

7th Motion:

Mayor Rell motioned **“TO AWARD THE 2022 SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR CONTRACT TO D&P MORAIS CONSTRUCTION INC FROM LUDLOW, MASSACHUSETTS AS PER THE TOWN BID/RFP #08-2022”** seconded by Councilor O'Connor.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

8th Motion:

Councilor Pelletier motioned **“TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AND THE WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 7, 2022”**, seconded by Councilor Hill

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 6-0-1 (Councilor O'Connor abstained).

Deputy Mayor Mazzarella returned.

9th Motion:

Councilor Forrest motioned, **“TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS UNION NEGOTIATIONS”** seconded by Councilor Hill.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

10th Motion:

Councilor Forrest motioned, **“TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION”** seconded by Councilor Hill.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

11th Motion:

Councilor Biggs motioned, **“TO APPROVE THE TOWN MANAGER’S RECOMMENDATION TO REORGANIZE THE TOWN PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO A FULL TIME PLANNING DIRECTOR, FULL TIME ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, CLERK 1 AND ELIMINATE THE ASSISTANT TOWN PLANNER POSITION.”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Vote: All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:00 p.m., Councilor Pentalow motioned "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Forrest. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00 p.m.